

Column One
by
DAVID COURTNEY

It is assumed that Western policy as it affects the Middle East is to be decided by the United States. It is also assumed in wide and perhaps overly broad terms that the United States is the main force in the world which is to decide the fate of the region. This is a dangerous assumption, for the United States is not the only power in the world. There are other powers, and the United States is not always in agreement with them. The United States is a powerful nation, but it is not the only power in the world. There are other powers, and the United States is not always in agreement with them. The United States is a powerful nation, but it is not the only power in the world. There are other powers, and the United States is not always in agreement with them.

IN this time of grave danger to the world, it is not surprising that the United States is the main force in the world which is to decide the fate of the region. This is a dangerous assumption, for the United States is not the only power in the world. There are other powers, and the United States is not always in agreement with them. The United States is a powerful nation, but it is not the only power in the world. There are other powers, and the United States is not always in agreement with them.

AGAINST this massive background, it might be expected that the killing of three schoolboys in their school playgrounds and the wounding of others by a fanatic, would be regarded as a minor incident. But it is not. It is a major incident, for it is a sign of the danger to the world. The United States is a powerful nation, but it is not the only power in the world. There are other powers, and the United States is not always in agreement with them.

IT does not, it broadens the whole world of shadow, until, for example, even the U.N. Secretary-General, Mr. Hammarstrand, is in a position to be asked to resign. The United States is a powerful nation, but it is not the only power in the world. There are other powers, and the United States is not always in agreement with them.

FOR the question today is a simple and fearful one: what happens next? One may say, and I think should, continue to hope that the most serious question of all will not be put—the one posed by war and never solved by peace—the question of the future of the world. The United States is a powerful nation, but it is not the only power in the world. There are other powers, and the United States is not always in agreement with them.

THE restraint of the Government is not easy to maintain in the face of the absence of restraint on the other side. Much less is this easy when the Powers directly concerned are apparently concerned or apparently unconcerned. The United States is a powerful nation, but it is not the only power in the world. There are other powers, and the United States is not always in agreement with them.

THE lack of agreement between London and Washington may not be due to any fundamental difference of opinion regarding the Middle East. The recent, odd statement of Mr. Dulles, to the effect that he knew of the existence of a secret agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union, is a clear indication of the danger to the world. The United States is a powerful nation, but it is not the only power in the world. There are other powers, and the United States is not always in agreement with them.

THE difference between the American and British attitudes seems to be that the American attitude is to intervene at once if it should come about. And Mr. Dulles, not surprisingly, does not want intervention by Britain alone. What, then, should be expected of the immediate contestants? The United States is a powerful nation, but it is not the only power in the world. There are other powers, and the United States is not always in agreement with them.

Jerusalem, April 12.

Bonn Plans Goodwill Mission to Mid-East

BONN, Thursday (Reuter). — The West German Economics Ministry and private industry are planning to send a goodwill mission to the Middle East, an Economics Ministry spokesman said today.

A goodwill mission of this kind could help the West German export drive and counteract political and economic moves in Middle Eastern countries to open diplomatic relations with East Germany. So far, Bonn has done so, but it is a sensitive spot.

Fierce Battles In
Algeria, 117 Dead

PARIS, Thursday. — Fierce engagements between security forces and rebels were reported from Algeria today as Resident Minister Robert Lacoste flew in from France after his successful mission to secure massive troop reinforcements.

117 rebels were killed and a number taken prisoner in bitter skirmishes, mainly in the Constantine Department, in West Algeria. A group of rebels dressed in military uniforms raided a small army camp, kidnapped two soldiers and stole a quantity of pistols.

In Moroccan armed men attacked a military garrison at Fes, killing one soldier and wounding three others. Police in French towns and villages were today handing out call-up notices to recruits in the 20 to 24 year age groups. The official gazette for today announces Cabinet decisions authorizing recall of up to 200,000 men from age groups — but it has been officially emphasized that not all of them will be mobilized.

At the Cabinet meeting, M. Premier Maurice Faure, Minister of the Interior, is reported to have been involved in a heated exchange with government leaders whom he criticized for not giving adequate emphasis to political reforms in Algeria.

M. Lacoste wrung his guarantee from a reluctant M. Faure at two stormy meetings. The French already have about 350,000 men in Algeria. The reinforcements will make up the largest single French army since General Charles de Gaulle led the Free French back to France in 1944.

Warsaw Journal Lists Jews Liquidated in USSR

NEW YORK, Thursday (UPI). — A list of prominent Jewish cultural leaders liquidated in the Soviet Union has been published in "Pravda," the Communist daily, in a reprint from "Politikuma," the Jewish Communist organ in Warsaw. The enunciations are attributed to the "Beria gang," the list includes the names of S. Dimantstein, head of the Jewish section of the Communist Party in Moscow; Moshe Lifshits, editor of "Ezra," the Jewish Communist daily in the U.S.S.R.; A. Merzhan, head of the Soviet government bureau which supervised Jewish colonization in the Crimea, Ukraine, and Birobidjan; Esther Frankin and Rachmil Weinstein, labour leaders; I. Charik and Moshe Kulshak, heads of the Jewish section in the U.S.S.R.; A. Merzhan, head of the Soviet government bureau which supervised Jewish colonization in the Crimea, Ukraine, and Birobidjan; Esther Frankin and Rachmil Weinstein, labour leaders; I. Charik and Moshe Kulshak, heads of the Jewish section in the U.S.S.R.

U.S. Denies Plan To Base Marines on Crete

WASHINGTON, Thursday. — The Navy today denied that the United States had scheduled to send training units to Crete in the Mediterranean.

It emphasized that this is merely part of routine training with units of the U.S. Sixth Fleet. A spokesman said that the same thing has been done many times in the past.

But both the State and Defense Departments firmly deny a report, which they attributed to Athens Radio, that the U.S. had asked Greek permission to base 1,000 Marines on Crete for use in the Mediterranean.

A similar denial was issued in Athens by the Greek Foreign Ministry. (Reuter, UP)

Our Lives Depend
On Army — Ben-Zvi

Jerusalem Post Reporter

In these extraordinary days of confusion and chaos, our children depend on the armed forces, President Ben-Zvi said yesterday as he urged the nation to support the army.

He said that the army was the only force that could protect the nation from the chaos and confusion that was sweeping the country.

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Ceylon Missions
For USSR, China

COLOMBO, Thursday (Reuter). — Mr. Solomon Bandanaike, Socialist election victory, was today given the Premier and Foreign and Defense Ministers of Ceylon, ushering in what his supporters claim will be a "new era" in the country.

His Cabinet of 13 also took the oath of office.

In his post-election statement, he said that he would govern in a spirit of cooperation with the people of Ceylon, and that he would work for the establishment of a new Ceylon, free from the influence of foreign powers.

Masked Gunmen
Kill Cypriot Youth

NICOSIA, Thursday. — Two masked gunmen shot dead a young Greek Cypriot in a village in the Ymagots District today.

The young man was talking to two friends outside a coffee shop when the gunmen shot him in the chest and the other in the back.

"You're a traitor," they shouted as they fled.

The victim was a 21-year-old student at the University of Cyprus.

Chief Rabbi Appeal
To Religious Leaders

The Chief Rabbi of Israel, Dr. I. H. Herzog, and Rabbi Yitzhak Nissim, yesterday appealed to religious leaders throughout the world to raise their voices in protest against the campaign of death being conducted inside Israel by Egyptian murder gangs.

They said that the campaign was a violation of the principles of Judaism, and that it was a threat to the survival of the Jewish people.

British Will Not Desert
Israel — Clement Davies

LYDDA AIRPORT, Thursday. — The friends of Israel in the British Parliament are today sending a message of support to the Government to supply arms to Israel, and to continue its fight against the Egyptian aggression.

They said that the British will not desert Israel, and that they will continue to support the Jewish people in their struggle for survival.

Anglo-Soviet Talks
To Deal with M.E.

LONDON, Thursday (Reuter). — Highlight of the long political talks between British and Soviet leaders will almost certainly be the inflammatory statement in the Middle East diplomatic sources said today.

The talks are being held in London, and are expected to continue for several days.

They are being held in the context of the recent developments in the Middle East, and the need for a coordinated Anglo-Soviet approach to the problem.

Arab League Studies
Boycott of France

CAIRO, Thursday (Reuter). — The Arab League Council has decided to form a technical committee composed of member states to study the problem of boycotting France.

The committee is to be headed by the Arab League Secretary-General, Abdel Kader Hammam, and will report back to the Council as soon as possible.

B-G: Ramle Murders Broke Truce Pledge;
Asks U.N. to 'Insist on Compliance'

Egyptian Plane Shot Down
Over Israel; 3 Others Flee

An Egyptian Vampire jet was shot down over Israel yesterday when two Israeli planes intercepted it, Egyptian officials said today.

The Vampire was shot down by two Israeli Mirage fighters, and the pilot was killed. Two other Egyptian planes fled the scene.

The incident occurred in the Gaza Strip, and was a violation of the truce pledge between Egypt and Israel.

Eban Confers With
West's Delegates

By JEROME MEL LUBNER, Jerusalem Post Correspondent

NEW YORK, Thursday. — Ambassador Abba Eban conferred today with the U.N. delegates of the three Western Powers on Egypt's acts of war and violations of the U.N. Charter.

Mr. Eban stressed Premier Nasser's delay in responding to the urgent request of General Burns that he issue a cease-fire.

He did not request a meeting of the Security Council, but pointed out to the Western delegates that the situation was a serious one, and that the U.N. must take action.

MAC Agreement
On Petra Deaths

Commander Terrell, the Chairman of the Jordan-Israel MAC, announced today, following an interview between a U.N. Observer and the Israeli side, that the MAC had agreed to a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip.

The agreement was reached after a series of negotiations, and was a significant step towards peace in the region.

Peres for Abarod

The Director General of the Ministry of Defense, Mr. Shimon Peres, is going abroad today on official business, it was announced last night.

Mr. Peres is expected to visit several countries, and will be in the Middle East for a number of days.

Nasser Brought Mid-East To
Brink of War — N.Y. Times

NEW YORK, Thursday (Reuter). — "The New York Times" said today that Egypt's Premier, Abdel Nasser, more than any single leader or government, had brought the Middle East to the "threshold of war."

The article stated that Nasser's actions had led to a series of crises in the region, and that the situation was now extremely tense.

Nasser Warns of War
Over Jordan Waters

The Egyptian Premier, Col. Abdel Nasser, said in a recent interview with a correspondent of "Life" magazine that Egypt will go to war if Israel repeats her work on the Jordan development project, according to a U.P. report.

Mr. Nasser said that Egypt was prepared to defend its interests, and that it would not tolerate any actions that threatened its sovereignty.

Fifth Death From
Shafir Assault

RAMLE, Thursday. — Albert Adari, 13, who was wounded in the murderous Palestinian assault on children in the Shafir Agricultural school yesterday evening died of his wounds in the Asaf Harofeh hospital today. He is the fifth fatal victim.

The hospital management stated that the condition of the four other wounded remains serious.

U.N. Chief Due In
Israel On Tuesday

Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, the U.N. Secretary-General, is due to arrive in Israel on Tuesday.

He is expected to meet with Israeli officials, and to discuss the current situation in the Middle East.

Egyptians Attack
Israel Position

Rifle and machinegun fire was directed at an Israeli position in the Gaza Strip yesterday afternoon, Egyptian officials said today.

The attack was a violation of the truce pledge, and was a direct challenge to the Israeli position in the region.

Meeting in Europe

The U.S. delegation, it was understood, was ready to agree to a meeting in Europe if that was what a majority of the Council members wanted.

The meeting was expected to discuss the current situation in the Middle East, and to seek a way forward.

Both Agree

He noted that both Governments had agreed to observe the terms of the 1949 Armistice Agreement, which provides that "No military or paramilitary forces of either party, including non-regular forces, shall enter into or leave the area of the armistice, or shall advance beyond or pass over any purpose whatsoever the armistice demarcation line, or shall engage in hostilities, or shall engage in any other act of aggression."

After Midnight

Mr. Thomas Harvey, a member of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, last night proposed the U.S. stop testing big hydrogen bombs and limit the size and number of such weapons it will stock.

Notice to Readers

IN RESPONSE to the request of the Prime Minister's Office, the Association of Publishers of Daily Newspapers has decided to recommend that all newspapers be published on Monday, April 16, Independence Day. The Jerusalem Post will therefore appear as usual.

Israel Files Fourth
Complaint with U.N.

UNITED NATIONS, Thursday. — Israel filed her fourth complaint in three days with the Security Council against Egyptian aggression yesterday.

The complaint was a direct result of the Egyptian attack on Israeli positions in the Gaza Strip.

Headquarters Had
Announced in New York

Mr. Hammarskjöld has obtained pledges from both Israel and Egypt, in which both countries agreed to comply with Article II (3) of the Armistice Agreement. Israel's agreement being given on the understanding that Egypt would do likewise, and in which Israel was informed that such an undertaking had been obtained from Egypt.

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UNIFYING ZIONIST FUNDS

J.N.F. Will Oppose Merger of National Fund-Raising Organs at Congress

By ARTHUR SAUL SUFER

The Jewish National Fund (J.N.F.) is disappointed with all the complexities of Jewish Agency machinery and the interlocking ramifications of its various funds, the unification of the money-raising organs of the World Zionist Organization must appear one of these obvious things which require little comment. It is for this reason that the fierce argumentation which is going on behind the scenes in connection with this proposal and the new received little publicity.

Now, with the 30th Zionist Congress just over a week off, the Jewish National Fund has come out with a detailed statement of its stand upon the question of the merger of the great Zionist funds which implies for practical purposes a merger of the Keren Kayemet (J.N.F.) and the Keren Hayesod-United Israel Appeal.

The argument for merger is simple. The two great funds maintain costly organizations and propaganda offices in Jerusalem and throughout the world. Apart from the staffs of organizers and officials, there is a good deal of overlapping in public relations and publications.

The latter must necessarily cover much common ground, while the multiplication of streams of propaganda material results in quick saturation and loss of interest by the public, particularly since the duplication also leads to the output of inferior material.

In this field competition does not mean a better but a poorer product, for both funds work on a budget and cannot pay adequate fees to professional writers and publicists.

Not Enough Top Men
The duplication also affects personnel. There are not sufficient top-rank men who are prepared to work for the salaries which the Zionist funds can afford to pay. When one takes into account office space, general expenses and the weariness of the public in the face of repeated appeals, the argument for a single, unified fund as a goal for the whole Zionist movement appears almost overwhelming.

A week ago the Jewish National Fund publicly announced its attitude towards the desired merger. In brief it was prepared to support unification in Israel but held that if the J.N.F. lost its separate existence in the Diaspora, savings in organizational expenses would hardly compensate for the loss of special traditional revenues it has produced in the past and can continue to bring in.

It is the future Congress established one united fund in the Diaspora, the J.N.F. points out, Israel would since 1951 have lost no less of \$140m. which is what the traditional activities of the J.N.F. have brought during the past five years. These activities include tree planting drives, Golden Book and other certifications, land reclamation schemes of various kinds and special efforts for Jewish youth in the Diaspora.

Under a merger, the cost of running the J.N.F. has been \$140m. which is a very low proportion for fund-raising activity. Thus the net loss to Israel under a merger would be \$140m.; all in previous foreign currency.

The outcome of the debate on this question at the coming Congress will be influenced greatly by one other aspect of the work of the J.N.F. whose new functions already transcended the old traditional fields of activity. The J.N.F. has for some time, in cooperation with the Jewish Agency, been pressing upon the Government the need for the creation of a Joint Land Authority to coordinate land



Recent arrivals in Israel clearing ground for J.N.F. construction work at Zakaria in Jerusalem Corridor.

The J.N.F. also argues that its appeal to the Jews of the Diaspora has an institutional, indefensible ideological Zionist function. While the United Israel Appeals in general are powered by whatever emergency is current in Jewish or Israel life from year to year, the transfer of Europe's survivors, defence, rescue of North African Jews and the like, the J.N.F. is inspired by a steady and unrelenting emphasis on the constructive basic functions of Zionism. These are reclamation of the land, rehabilitation of the soil, and people of Israel, preparation of areas for immigrant settlement, settlement of the hill country; in short, all those essential things which are the essence of Zionism and which are the embodiment in reality of all the dreams of restoration of Israel to its ancestral territory and its pristine nationhood.

Freedom of Action
Becoming more specific, the J.N.F. argues that in its work of soil provision and preparation, it has always to be in a position to react at once to the needs of Israel at any particular moment. It is the agency which realizes the various schemes of land settlement and makes an ordered immigration policy. Only in this way can it be ready to take the initiative and respond both to constant and emergency situations. As an instance of this is the programme launched last summer for the reclamation of 300,000 dunams of hill country which will allow for the settlement of 12,000 Jewish immigrants with obvious strategic and economic advantages.

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holdings and to plan an ordered agrarian policy for Israel. Up till the present, the Jewish Government has not been able to find the time to devote to this question which is becoming more urgent every day.

The extent of overlapping in land authorities in Israel is stupendous and it is indeed sad to see that, with so much duplication, the Jewish Government is still unable to find the time to devote to this question which is becoming more urgent every day.

The practical advantages of this are obvious but such an Authority would also have important ideological implications, for a real and literal ground of common interest between the Government and the Jewish Agency.

HEARD ABROAD
I like to wear meditation suits with me. I have the same old brown suit that I wear to bed. — The Maharshi of Baroda.

It is too difficult to make love through an interpreter. — Mr. Malenkov.

For these reasons, the University has been trying to give me a degree. — Mr. Harry Truman.

I am going to be well there in universal peace. — Dr. Hewitt Johnson.

What's New?
By DANN BEN-AMOTZ

Just Between Us
WE'VE never had an interview with a man so close to our heart as Dahn Ben-Amotz who, together with poet Haim Haef, has just published a book of local folklore called "Yalkut Hakavim" ("A Bag of Lies") which this month will be on the shelves.

The first question we put to Mr. Ben-Amotz after he had taken one of our cigarettes and lit it with our matches was naturally, concerned with the reason for the great success of "Yalkut Hakavim". He ordered, at our expense, a cup of coffee and when the waiter had departed he said, "I tell you, the taste of the reading public in this country is atrocious. Believe me, I can't understand why people are so crazy about this book. You'd think it was the only Hebrew book published in ten years. The first edition was snatched up in six days. Second edition disappeared within a week. It took another ten days for the third edition to go, and the fourth edition is just out with 70 per cent sold in advance. What's going on here? Aren't there any other books on the market? The book of 'Yalkut Hakavim' was published recently. A most wonderful book, interesting and thorough. And Professor Klausner's book 'The Jews and Christianity' just came out. Z. Shalovsky's book 'The Paris Commune and the Jews' has just appeared. And then there are 'Yalkut Hakavim' by Gorenstsky, Aaron Megid's latest book and naturally you can still get the two books of the Palmach, with or without coupons. What's so great about 'Yalkut Hakavim'? Is it the most important book since the 'Seder Hagdalah'? You should see what's been going on. The other day the

ment of Israel and the Zionist movement will have been created. It is also clear that the implementation of this scheme and the development of the work of the Joint Land Authority, the role of the J.N.F. must be decisive.

U.S. Seeks Positive Policy
By PATRICK O'DONOVAN

WASHINGTON (OWNS). — THE chief and only effective claim made by the Republicans for their foreign policy is that the United States is not actually at war. Otherwise, over a year in which little has been achieved, that gives cause for jubilation. It has been marked by an absence of self-criticism and a determination to find a bright side. This could be blamed on the sickness of the President, on the personal failure of Mr. Dulles or on the general and inevitable slowness of democracies to meet the swift changes of policy and principle that only dictators can manipulate.

The U.S. is attempting to shift to the offensive in the Cold War and the attempt is being supported by members of both political parties in Congress. In his recent three-week tour of Asia, Mr. Dulles made a real effort to satisfy the nationalistic claims of his hosts and to understand why they were neutral. He seemed to foreshadow a de-emphasis of the military groupings in the area which have been a corner-stone of U.S. policy and a source of anger from Mr. Nehru downwards.

Mr. Harold Stassen, President Eisenhower's special assistant on disarmament, has made a series of new proposals to the disarmament conference in London that have brought agreement appreciably nearer. The Administration is taking a wise and relaxed view of its allies, with trade with Communist countries, and has refused to cut economic aid as a way of bringing them back into line. The Administration's request for a 10-year foreign aid programme was a creative one, though it was still cautious and still heavily weighted on the military side, and it was brilliantly defended by

Homecoming of Dr. Wells
MEN are happy to believe that the ugly clouds of political persecution have almost left the United States. Senator McCarthy is cut down to an eccentric Republican Senator in trouble with his State electorate. In 1950, when he shadowed this country, 16 professors of the University of California were asked by the University Regents to refuse to take a second oath of loyalty after the State's anti-Communist law. They refused to do so, and their refusal to do so was a function of a university to behave in that manner.

The professors were reinstated in their jobs. They also got two-and-a-half years' back salary, full pension rights, and their lapsed prerogatives, their right to teach, and all their court costs paid.

But justice and democracy, especially in so ebullient and volatile a man as America's, are not things that, once arrived, stay automatically. Take the case of Dr. Wells. Guy Wells of Carroll County, Georgia, is a native Southerner. He has taught in poor

Died Laughing and the Tenth Died to Get the Book. And so on and so forth. We had many such ideas, but the publisher didn't use them.

What happened? We asked. Don't they have any money? "Oh, they have money all right," said Mr. Ben-Amotz. "They have no imagination, that's all."

Why didn't you yourself do some publicity for the book? We asked. After all, you published it. "I did," said Mr. Ben-Amotz. "I did it in Hebrew and English. Why didn't you, for instance, write an interview with yourself? It could have been very interesting."

"Don't be ridiculous," he said. "Don't you know that the one thing you can't find in this country is a sense of humour? It is a sense of humour? Don't imagine what people would say if I were to write a piece where I asked myself questions and then pretended to answer them. You don't know my readers. Why, they'd say that I was using my column for free publicity. It's an atrocious idea. It's out of the question. Besides, the book doesn't need any publicity. The main problem right now is how to sell more copies but how to convince the public that it's not worth fighting over. Did you know that three printing houses were vying to print it? I had three shifts to satisfy the demand and that they're negotiating now with the Government to help them out? Of course they're some problems. Where, for instance, will the Minutes of the Knesset be printed? The Knesset is not as funny as 'Yalkut Hakavim' and that the public doesn't snap up the official publications means nothing at all. They must be published all the same. Otherwise the Government would not be a Government and the State would not be a State. I myself am against this deal. To keep the Government Printer busy printing lies would really be too much. I mean three or four lies."

Man of Paris
The Consul-General, Dr. Peretz Jacobson, is a man of many parts. First, he is a one-man staff, as the Minister is resident in Tokyo. Second, he runs an eye-clinic and his own private hospital that has become a landmark in the city and is pointed

national and racial barriers. Early in March a local newspaper published a distorted version of what he said and called him a traitor to his people.

On March 15 the State of Education instructed the Teachers Retirement Board to discontinue "if possible" Dr. Wells' pension. They are now trying to find a loophole in the law to do this. The office of Professor Emeritus of the State College for Women, which he held, was abolished so that he lost insurance and hospitalization benefits.

Neither the Rotarians, of which Dr. Wells was a former district governor, nor the Baptist Church, of which he was a prominent member, nor the Georgia Teachers Association, nor the Southern newspapers who still write of free speech, have come to his aid. He is a moderate, a man preaching compromise in Europe his ideas would rouse little interest. He is disavowed as an extremist in the white South of today.

NATURE NOTES

Bridal Veil

A very strange little flower known as the Bridal Veil, is found in the Coastal Plain. The plant creeps along the ground, forming a green and white carpet. There are lanceolate leaves, and small, white, starry flowers, but it is actually a whole group of the tiny blooms, discovered by the writer on a hillside, for the stiff, petal-like, almost transparent things are actually bracts. For the uninitiated, bracts are scale-like or leaf-like organs under the calyx, the calyx being the whorl of sepals, mostly green, under the real flower.

This odd but graceful and pretty thing, which is of great value as a sandblender after the first stages of overgrowing dunes are passed, the cabinet herbarium at the Botanical Garden (Pavlovskaya Argemone-Almond). Its oddity lies not only in its looks. Strange to say, it belongs to the same genus to which belong pink and carnations, those showy and sweet-scented flowers. Further, the foliage is rather like that of the silvery fronds for making tea I have never tasted it, but I suppose it is no worse than any other tea made for instance.

The name of Bridal Veil, very suitable to the plant, is also the Arabic folk-name. In the whole, Arabs are not very good at names. Indeed, they will often enough tell: "It has no name — it isn't good to eat. But here, this 'bridal veil' sometimes will creep across an erosion fissure and hang down like a curtain or a veil, thus fixing the earth and preventing further damage."

ORIENT TRAVEL DIARY

By TED E. LURIE

THE Israel "colony" in Thailand held a meeting one day last month. All the Israeli citizens in Bangkok — all three of them — were present at the Israel Legation in Suriwong Road to receive greetings from home brought by the writer on a flying visit through South-East Asia.

The "colony" consists of two research students from Jerusalem who have been there for about a year on special scholarships and the Consul-General (honorary) who is one of Bangkok's prominent citizens, an eye-doctor who migrated here from Germany 20 years ago, and became an Israeli citizen when he visited the country in 1954.

One of the students has completed his year's study of Siamese history and culture as an Unesco scholar, and the second has been studying the economy of Thailand for a slightly longer period. He is on a special scholarship endowed by a Swiss banker formerly in business in Bangkok. Both have been in the Legation their headquarters in Asia, as have other Israelis who have passed through Bangkok from time to time in the past two years.

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When he went back to the South he believed that social and political conditions should be kept open between white and black in Georgia. Not much more than that. He was certainly not one for shaking the South upside down into racial equality overnight. But he did say that the law of the country on the subject should be compromised in the "Educated Man." One of the marks of an educated man, he says, is to be able to cross

country schools and has been principal of large city ones. He was organizing president of the Georgia Association of School Administrators. He was in Germany as a school adviser to the American Occupation. He was then educational adviser to the Aid Programme in Libya. He was in fact, as distinguished a head-master as that State can boast.

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RAMBLING IN BANGKOK

By TED E. LURIE

THE adult clothes. All of them know the doctor as a friend and healer who works practically round the clock and practically seven days a week.

Museum's Collection
A rambling two-story frame house in the hospital, clinic, and the doctor's unique and startlingly attractive private residence as well. Those ascending steps to his home for the first time say that it is like a museum, but it is not, for it is a dwelling furnished with the most unusual collection of oriental screens, figures, paintings and other objects that the Jacobson family have collected over the past two decades.

But doctor, diplomat and collector are only three of the Israel consul-general's many parts. For in between ministering to the sick and performing his representative duties at the diplomatic receptions and official parties Dr. Jacobson somehow also finds time to be a cook and is known as one of the best in Bangkok. And he is an editor as well, putting out a monthly magazine, "Israel Review."

His favourite occupation, however, would appear to be that of guide to the sites of the city, and his literary inclinations more than the famous temples — the shining new Marble Temple with its gallery of more than 100 Buddhas, the Reclining Buddha of enormous proportions, or the emerald Buddha whose green hue is now high-lighted by the sun. Or if he is in the mood in the evening he will take you to a Chinese theatre where you will find the audience cheering for your attention and interest with the overdone and very noisy actors on the stage, and on the way perhaps you may stop to see an opium den.

Official Opium
Opium smoking is not only legal, it is a government monopoly and the drug is sold in small metal tubes sealed with official seals.

Walking up and down the corridors between the bells you can see the men reclining on their sides, either preparing the pipe or smoking or peacefully dreaming after having smoked a pipe. Preparing the pipe takes some time, and usually the men sit in pairs, each helping each other with the instruments — for the opium pipe is a long and rather heavy affair, rather like a large oboe.

You can study them in all stages of their repose, for the men appear to be entirely unconcerned with the strangers walking by. The

opium parlor, I was told, is the Chinese equivalent of the pub or the bar, where friends meet and chat together over a pipe, like westerners over a drink in the evening.

Additionally, our superior guide keeps his eyes open as you tour Bangkok, for some typically Siamese celebration that always seems to be going on. One night we spotted a gaily illuminated scene just off the main road, and I thought we had happened on a wedding. But no, we stopped and walked over to the lighted pavilions we found, instead, a funeral celebration, that is, a festive party on the occasion of a cremation.

On elevated altars were four gold-tinted ornate coffins bedecked with flowers, with a photograph of the deceased on each tier. There were a few hundred celebrants sitting in the two pavilions and in the courtyard between them, listening to the Siamese music and being served cool drinks, orange, coca cola, beer and whisky too. The men were sitting around tables, dressed in white suits with black ties. Some had black arm bands on their sleeves. They were being served by the women folk who were dressed entirely in black.

Bright Wake
The black note was the only sign of mourning, in fact, for the entertainment was bright and gay and the mood of the celebrants cheerful, except for the occasional individual who from time to time would approach the biers and kneel down to pray for a few moments. In one pavilion, a Siamese musical ensemble was playing, while in the other, a theatrical troupe were enacting comedy skits with a good deal of slapstick. The deceased were about to be cremated, and the ceremony of returning the body to ashes was a time for merriment.

Altogether the Thai, or Siamese, as some of them still like to be called, are a gay and happy people. They do not appear to be too much in a hurry or too energetic, except perhaps about sex and cooking, which seem to be the two main preoccupations. And one of the most attractive sights to the stranger are the fruit stalls with their abundant variety of papaya, mangoes, Chinese apples, coconuts and 30 different kinds of bananas and scores of other fruit.

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